

PONTYPOOL
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



MEDICAL OFFICER'S
ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1945



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HANBURY ROAD,
PONTYPOOL, MON.
1946.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Pontypool Urban District Council.*

Mrs. DAVIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The Welsh Board of Health have requested that Medical Officers of Health confine their Annual Reports for 1945 to essential and urgent matters, and I beg to submit mine in this form.

Physical Features

Items under this heading correspond with my report for 1938.

S T A T I S T I C S

General Statistics

Information under the above heading has been purposely omitted.

Vital Statistics

Birth Rate	19·06 per 1,000 population
Death Rate	12·3 " " "
Infantile Death Rate	51·4 per 1,000 live births
Infectious Disease Death Rate excluding Tuberculosis	00·74 per 1,000 population
Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death Rate	00·67 " " "
Other Tuberculosis Diseases Death Rate	00·01 " " "

Birth Rate

The total number of births returned by the Registrar General for the calculation of Birth Rates for 1945 (known in Table I. as "B.R.") and for the calculations of Infant and Maternal Mortalities (known in Table I as "I.M. &c.") was as follows—

Live Birth Rate	17·06 per 1,000 population
Illegitimate Birth Rate	48·6 per 1,000 live births

The number of women dying in consequence of childbirth was nil.

From puerperal sepsis (No. 29)	1
From other maternal causes (No. 30)	0
Total deaths under headings (Nos. 29 and 30)	1

Death rate of infants under one year of age—

All infants per 1,000 live births	51·4
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	54·2
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	57·1

	Total	Male	Female
Deaths from measles (all ages)	1	1	0
„ whooping cough (all ages)	1	1	0
„ cancer	60	31	29
„ diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1	1	0

AGES AT DEATH OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

Under one week	.....	12
1—2 weeks	.....	3
2—3 „	.....	0
3—4 „	.....	0
Total under one month	.....	15
1—3 months	.....	8
3—6 „	.....	6
6—9 „	.....	1
9—12 „	.....	1
Total under one year	.....	16

INFANTILE DEATH RATES (1,000 LIVE BIRTHS) COMPARED

Year	England & Wales	Monmouthshire	Pontypool
1945	46	55·6	51·4

Table 1.—Causes of Death in Pontypool Urban District 1945

CAUSES OF DEATH			Males	Females
All Causes			278	234
1	Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	...	—	—
2	Cerebro spinal fever	...	3	—
3	Scarlet fever	...	—	—
4	Whooping cough	...	1	—
5	Diphtheria	...	1	—
6	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	12	16
7	Other forms of tuberculosis	...	—	3
8	Syphilitic diseases	...	1	—
9	Influenza	...	—	2
10	Measles	...	1	—
11	Ac. polio-myel and polio-enceph.	...	—	—
12	Ac. inf. enceph.	...	1	—
13	Cancer of B; cav; and oesoph: (m) uterus (f)	...	3	5
14	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	...	9	7
15	Cancer of breast	...	—	3
16	Cancer of all other sites	...	19	14
17	Diabetes	...	4	5
18	Intra-cran: vasc; lesions	...	24	27
19	Heart disease	...	67	67
20	Other diseases of circulatory system	...	10	7
21	Bronchitis	...	23	9
22	Pneumonia	...	9	7
23	Other respiratory diseases	...	5	3
24	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	8	1
25	Diarrhoea, (under 2 years)	...	1	—
26	Appendicitis	...	2	—
27	Other digestive diseases	...	2	7
28	Nephritis	...	5	5
29	Puerperal and post-abort. sepsis	...	—	1
30	Other maternal causes	...	—	—
31	Premature birth	...	8	5
32	Con. mal. birth inj. infant dis.	...	9	6
33	Suicide	...	3	—
34	Road traffic accidents	...	5	2
35	Other violent causes	...	10	5
36	All other causes	...	27	27
			M	F
			For I.M. etc.	
Live Births	Total	...	381	338
	Legitimate	...	362	322
	Illegitimate	...	19	16
Stillbirths	Total	...	11	20
	Legitimate	...	9	19
	Illegitimate	...	2	1
			M	F
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	Total	...	22	15
	Legitimate	...	21	14
	Illegitimate	...	1	1

NOTE—The child dying from diphtheria was not immunised

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Public Health Officers of the Authority

These were similar to my Report for 1944 with one exception—Dr. A. Carveth Johnson, Tuberculosis Physician from the King Edward VII Welsh National Memorial Association visits the Park Buildings, Pontypool, on Tuesday only of each week.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

As stated in my Annual Report for 1944, several items under this heading will be found in the Sanitary Inspectors Reports at the end of this Report.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

This is reported on by the Sanitary Inspectors in their Reports.

HOUSING

This is also reported on by the Sanitary Inspectors in their Reports.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Items under this heading are as reported in my Annual Report for 1938.

The Sanitary Inspectors have reported on the work carried out during the year in their Reports.

The Council is now the authority for the administration of the Food and Drugs Act.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

No alarming disclosures under any of the headings set out in my Annual Report for 1944 and no alteration from the information stated therein.

Prevention of Blindness

No action was taken by the Council under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes.

TABLE II.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS
NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR ARRANGED IN AGE GROUPS.

DISEASE	Under 1 year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over	Total all ages	Cases removed to Hospital
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	1	1	...	5	3
Malaria and Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...
Scarlet Fever	...	3	2	2	6	28	9	8	1	...	1	...	60	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	...
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	...
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	0	...
Pneumonia	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	3	1	4	...	13	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	0	...
Measles	30	65	79	96	131	179	12	...	2	2	...	...	601	...
Whooping Cough	4	3	7	6	6	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	32	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...
Meningitis	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	4	...
TOTALS	38	71	89	104	144	215	22	16	12	6	7	2	726	3

TABLE III.
ANALYSIS OF DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS,
IN AGE GROUPS.

DISEASE	Under 1 year		1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over	Total all ages
Diphtheria	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Malaria and Dysentery	1	...	0
Erysipelas	1
Scarlet Fever	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0
Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3
Acute Poliomyelitis	0
Enteric Fever	0
Small Pox	3	1	2	6	20
Pneumonia	5	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Encephalitis Lethargica	0
Poliioencephalitis	1	...	...	...	1
Other Maternal Causes	1
Measles	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Meningitis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3
TOTALS	6	4	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	4	1	4	8	31

Tuberculosis

Sixty-eight (46 male and 22 female) cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and Eight (2 male and 6 female) of the other forms of the disease were notified during the year.

There were Twenty-eight (10 male and 18 female) deaths from the pulmonary form of the disease, and Five (3 male and 2 female) of the non-pulmonary form.

The King Edward VII Welsh National Memorial Association have an Institute at the Park Buildings, Pontypool, where Dr. A. Carveth Johnson attended on Tuesday of each week to see new cases referred to by the Medical Practitioners for examination, and old cases still requiring supervision or treatment. Visits were also made by Dr. Johnson to the homes of people too ill to attend the Institute.

No action for the compulsory removal of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis under Section 172 of the Public Health Act 1936 became necessary.

No cases of Tuberculosis among employees engaged in the milk trade came under my observation, therefore no action under the Public Health Prevention of Tuberculosis Regulations 1925, became necessary.

All deaths from Tuberculosis during the year had been previously notified in the district.

TABLE IV.

Particulars of New Cases of Tuberculosis and
Deaths from the Disease during 1945.

New Cases					Deaths			
Age Periods	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0—1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1
1—5	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
5—15	4	1	1	2	...	1	...	...
15—25	7	10	...	1	1	7	1	...
25—35	13	5	1	...	1	4	1	...
35—45	10	3	...	1	3	3	...	1
45—55	6	1	...	...	3	1	...	...
55—65	4	...	..	1	2	2	1	...
65 and upwards	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	46	22	2	6	10	18	3	2

Diphtheria Immunisation

During the year 24 Clinics were held at the Schools and Child-Welfare Centres conducted by Assistant Medical Officers from the County Council Staff.

The number of children who completed the course during the year is given below—

Children under 5 years	5 to 15 years	Total
3,579	6,251	6,830

Venereal Disease

This complaint is dealt with by the Health Department of the County Council.

Posters have been placed in all the Public Conveniences throughout the Area, giving full particulars of the dangers attendant on the disease and directing the patient to apply to the County Medical Officer for particulars of treatment, and giving the Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport, as the Central Clinic for this purpose. Bedclothes and bedding are disinfected at the Council's Steam Disinfector.

Recommendations

As stated in my Annual Report for 1938.

I am,

Mrs. Davies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

THOMAS McALLEN.

TOWN HALL,
PONTYPOOL,

19th Sept. 1946.

To Dr. T. J. McALLEN,
Medical Officer of Health,
Pontypool U.D.C.

I beg to submit my Report for the year
ending 31st December, 1945.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

203 visits were paid in connection with Infectious Disease. Terminal Disinfection was carried out in each case and all precautions taken against the further spread of the disease.

Three cases of Diphtheria were removed to hospital, of whom two were adults and the other a child who had not been immunised.

SCABIES

Ten children were removed to hospital for treatment of Scabies during the year. Nine other cases were treated at home

TUBERCULOSIS ENVIRONMENTAL ENQUIRIES

Fifty-seven enquiries were made during the year and reports submitted to the Tuberculosis Officer in Newport.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

402 children under 5 years completed the course of injections held at monthly clinics in the area.

FARMS, DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS

129 visits were paid to Farms and Dairies during the year. Conditions on the whole were found to be good. Any small faults found were remedied without difficulty.

Your obedient servant,

J. M. JONES,
Sanitary Inspector.

Pontypool Urban District Council

Panteg District, and Part of Pontypool
and Wainfelin Districts.

August 1946

Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report

To Dr. T. J. McALLEN,
Medical Officer of Health,
Pontypool Urban District Council

I beg to submit my report for the
year ending 31st December 1945.

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

NOTICES SERVED

Informal	.....	98	
Statutory	.....	17	
		—	115
No. of Inspections and Reinspections			723

SUMMARY OF NUISANCES ABATED

Rainwater services repaired or renewed	17
Leaking roofs repaired	41
Floors repaired	4
External walls pointed	2
Chimneys repaired	1
Additional ventilation provided	1
Windows and doors repaired	19
New windows and doors provided and fixed	14
Plaster renewed to internal walls and ceilings	14
Stairs repaired	2
Broken floor pavings repaired	9
Stoves and grates repaired or renewed	8
Floors affected with dry rot renewed	4
Waste pipes renewed to sinks	4
New sinks provided and fixed	3
New concrete floors	3
W.C. apartment roofs repaired	10
New pans or flush tanks fitted to W.C.'s.	8
Obsolete gullies replaced by modern gullies	2
Defective drains repaired	5
Stoppages in drains opened	30
Rear yards repaired or relayed	2
Washing boilers repaired	4

VISITS TO VARIOUS PREMISES

Dwelling houses	617
Shops and warehouses	28
Factories and workshops	21
Tents, vans and sheds	33
Schools	10
Cinemas	14

TENTS, VANS & SHEDS

Regular visits were made to the Vans and Sheds in the district. The number of temporary dwellings fluctuates throughout the year, the number of families at the end of the year being nine.

FOOD & DRUG ACT, 1938—Sampling

29 samples of milk, and 78 samples of other food were taken and submitted for analysis by the Public Analyst. One sample of flour was found to be infested with mites. The remainder were certified as genuine samples and free from adulteration.

UNSOUND FOOD

A large proportion of unsound food is returned by the retailer to the manufacturer for salvage. The following was condemned—

54 tins Beans	32 tins Stewed Steak
18 tins Peas	14 tins Lyle's Syrup
24 lbs. Cheese	120 tins Evaporated Milk
60 lbs. Butter	27 tins Sweetened Milk
164 lbs. Bacon	21 tins Sardines
12 tins Salmon	6 lbs. Sugar
45 tins Pilchards	2 tins Crayfish
288 Eggs.	

SCHOOLS

All the schools in the district were examined and found to be in a satisfactory condition. ●

WATER SUPPLIES

The water supply to the greater part of the district is provided by the Pontypool Gas and Water Co. Sampling is regularly carried out by the Company and The Health Department of the Council. No complaints were received regarding the supply during the year.

FACTORIES

There are no outworkers in the district. One notice was received from the Factories Inspector, and the work was complied with. All bakehouses were found in a clean and satisfactory condition, and in two cases improvements were effected.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

All cases are visited, and arrangements made for isolation, either at home or at an isolation hospital. After removal of patient, or if isolated at home, upon recovery, the house, bedding and other articles are disinfected.

ACCUMULATIONS OF REFUSE

Two accumulations of refuse were found, these were cleared, following service of notice.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

Two complaints were received during the year. Sulphur fumigation was carried out by the Health Department with satisfactory results.

Your obedient servant,

BRYAN GILFORD,

Sanitary Inspector.

Pontypool Urban District Council

Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report NORTH DISTRICT, 1945

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
CO-OPERATIVE BUILDINGS,
HIGH STREET,
ABERSYCHAN, MGN.

Below is my report on work carried out by the Department in the North District for the year 1945.

NOTICES SERVED

Informal notices	180
Statutory notices	22

DEFECTS IN DWELLINGS

Houses repaired externally	141
Houses repaired internally	126
Number of inspections and reinspections	972

DRAINAGE

Drains examined	12
Drains opened and cleansed	9
Drains connected to sewer	0
New drains provided	4
Defective drains repaired	21
Defective W.C's put in order	35
Defective flushing tanks repaired or renewed	12
New tanks supplied to W.C's.	5
New pans supplied to W.C's.	10
New lavatories provided	0

OTHER NUISANCES

Accumulation of refuse removed	4
--------------------------------	---

TENTS, SHEDS AND VANS

The small number of vans and sheds occupied as dwellings have been inspected, and cleanliness kept to a reasonable standard. Action in regard to these dwellings is held up by the present housing conditions consequent upon the war. Four huts have been closed at Victoria Village.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES

Inspections of workshops and workplaces has been carried out, and below is a report on inspections made—

Premises	No. of Inspections	Notices served	Action necessary
Factories (including Laundries)	12	2	nil
Workshops	36	1	nil
Workplaces	16	0	nil

All notices served in connection with these premises were complied with.

CINEMAS

Number of cinemas in the district	2
Number of inspections made	10
Notices served and complied with	4

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Below is my report of meat inspected at the Central Slaughter House Abersychan, showing the number of cattle killed and meat condemned.

ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED

Cattle	1434	Pigs	93
Sheep	11234		
Calves	1384	Total	14,145

MEAT CONDEMNED

Beef	24217 lbs.	Veal	413 lbs.
Mutton	236 "		
Pork	408 "		
Lamb	62 "	Total	25,336 lbs.

OFFAL CONDEMNED

269 Ox Lungs, 297 Livers, 30 Sheep's Plucks, 1 Pigs Fry, 4 Calves Plucks, 115 other Organs, 23 complete Cow Offals, 873 Sheep's Livers, 802 Sheep's Lungs, 314 Melts, 5 other Organs, 3 Pigs Hearts

OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED

169 lbs Bacon, 140 lbs Cheese, 507 Corned Beef, 68 lbs Sultanas, 86 lbs Butter, 352 Eggs, 18 tins Pilchards, 15 tins Stewed Steak, 25 tins Milk, 12 tins Peas, 58 tins Beans, 18 tins Plums, 40 lbs Tinned Meat, 2 tins Syrup, 100 lbs Prunes, 172 lbs Dates, 113 lbs Imported Butter, 3 lbs Lard

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

During the year the following cases of Infectious Diseases were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

Diphtheria	3
Scabies	10
Scarlet Fever	0

WATER SUPPLY

The main water supply is taken from the mains of the Pontypool Company, samples are regularly taken by the Company for analysis, and no complaints were received respecting the supply from householders.

Two samples of water from a spring and well supplying houses at Varteg were examined and the report satisfactory.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1934-8

Twelve samples of milk were taken under the above Acts, and submitted to the Analyst. All samples were genuine milks, and no action was necessary against the producers or vendors. 32 samples of other foods were all genuine samples.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

In three instances this pest has been destroyed by the use of Cimex Gas, and five by insecticide.

RATS & MICE DESTRUCTION

Number of complaints received during the year 103.

Sewers throughout the area, including river outfalls have been treated.

Five Cinemas have been treated and cleared.

Shops and Warehouses have been inspected, and where necessary baits have been laid with good results.

The number of dead rats recovered was 1,200, equivalent to 7,200 under the Ministry of Foods Formulae.

SCHOOLS

Inspection of Schools situated in my district was carried out, and no nuisances discovered.

I am,

Mrs. Davies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

F. G. MEEK

(Chief Sanitary Inspector)

